



Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation  
Research Office

## RESEARCH PROPOSAL

*Note: Applicants may be subject to a security check*

This completed form is to be attached as additional document in DCR's [online research application](#)

Additional guidance on application submission can be provided by contacting **DCR Research Office** at: [dcr.officeofresearch@mass.gov](mailto:dcr.officeofresearch@mass.gov)

*Note: An incomplete application, lack of signature/date, or unclear methods/scope of work will result in delays of processing and review.*

1. **Project Title:**

2. **Principal Investigator name and affiliation:**

3. **Goals and objectives of study, including value of research to DCR or conservation:**

3. **Research location(s):**

a) Which DCR State Parks, State Forests and/or Reservations are involved with your study?

b) Specific locations (latitude, longitude) and habitat types to be used. Indicate all study sites on a map. Suitable base maps include DCR trail maps or USGS topo maps. Include any appropriate coordinates, shapefiles, or feature class files if available (maximum size of 10 MB per submittal). Be as accurate and clear as possible;

4. **Time period of proposed project:**

a. Starting date:

Ending date:

5. **Describe research methods:**

6. **Describe all vehicles that will be used on DCR lands, if known:**

Make	Model	Year	State	License plate number

7. **Will boats/motors be used for the research study?**     Yes     No

If yes, please explain:

8. a. **Describe any equipment or structures to be placed or used on DCR property.**

**Please include a description or photos of equipment and structures proposed**

*All equipment/structures shall be labeled with research permit number and contact info.*

b. **Do you propose any changes to vegetation or to soils? If yes, please describe.**

9. **Will flagging or markers be used?**     Yes     No

If yes, describe color and type of markers or flagging:

*All flagging proposed to remain onsite shall be labeled with research permit number.*

10. **Specify anticipated reports and all products that will be written or published from data collected from DCR public lands.**

*Researchers must submit all data collected from DCR lands annually and at permit expiration. An annual report is required prior to requesting permit renewal.*

## Massachusetts Regulatory Review Checklist

(To be completed by applicant)

Yes  No Will any of the work require digging, pulling or scaring of ground surfaces?

*If yes, please explain clearly, as the project will be reviewed by the DCR Archaeologist. Proponent may need to file an application with MA Historic Commission, if required after initial DCR staff review.*

Yes  No Will any work occur within 200 feet of a stream or river or within 100 feet of a wetland resource area?

Yes  No Is work under jurisdiction of the WPA Regulations?

*If yes, contact the local conservation commission for help preparing an application for a permit under MA 310 CMR 10.00. Submit all permit applications to DCR Ecologist prior to submittal to Conservation Commission.*

**Compliance with the following DCR PARKS AND RECREATION RULES AND REGULATIONS is required.** Agency regulations are available at:

<http://www.mass.gov/eea/docs/dcr/legal/3021200.pdf>

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation**

**PARKS AND RECREATION RULES AND REGULATIONS**

**302 CMR 12.00;** These rules and regulations govern the conduct of activities on property of the Commonwealth under the care, custody, and control of the Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR).

**(1) Definition of DCR Property**

DCR property means property, real or personal, in which the DCR has a legal interest including property under the care, custody, or control of the DCR. Such property may include, but is not limited to grassland, reservations, parks, forests, beaches, tidelands, pools, skating rinks, golf courses, campgrounds, rail trails, bike trails, forest roads, forest ways, ponds, lakes, parking areas, trailheads, parkways, boulevards, roadways, facilities, and structures.

**(2) Rules and Regulations**

- (a) No person may camp on DCR property, except in a designated campsite, camping structure, or camping area.
- (b) Unless otherwise posted, permitted or provided, DCR property shall be open to the public from one-half hour before sunrise to one-half hour after sunset as published by the National Weather Service. The use of DCR roadways and bridges is not limited to the above hours.
- (c) Each person on DCR property shall abide by all applicable local, Commonwealth of Massachusetts and United State laws and regulations.
- (d) No person may kindle, build, maintain, or use a fire of any type other than within grills or fire rings intended for such use at designated picnic and camping areas. Portable stoves using gaseous or flammable liquid fuels and charcoal grills, hibachis, and other apparatus for cooking may be used in other locations at a designated camping site if permission to do so is granted by DCR personnel.
- (e) No person may engage in disorderly conduct including, without limitation, drunkenness, rough play, pushing, shoving, breach of the peace or unnecessary noise offensive to the general public, use of profanity, vulgar or obscene language, or other language that may incite fighting or harm to DCR Personnel or to the public.
- (f) No person may construct or clear any new trail or maintain, mark or change the use or tread way of an existing trail on DCR property, without written authorization by the Division Director.

- (g) A person may not transport any aquatic species, including, but not limited to, fragments, roots, rhizomes, stems, leaves, seeds, larvae, or animal or plant fibers, on a boat, personal watercraft, boat trailer, anchor, gear (including diving, recreational and fishing equipment) or any other equipment that may come in contact with the water. A person may not transport or distribute any aquatic invasive species (or parts of any aquatic invasive species, including roots, rhizomes, stems, leaves, seeds, larvae, or animal or plant fibers) in a manner that could cause the species to get into or out of any waters under the care and custody of DCR.
- (h) No person may cause or permit any pet, horse, or other domesticated animal to be unattended or to roam or be at large on DCR property.
- (i) No person may operate any motor vehicle upon or over any designated nonmotorized trail, except to cross over a non-motorized trail where such crossing is designated by the Department or allowed by duly authorized DCR permit.
- (j) No person may damage, disturb or remove any DCR property or resource, real, natural, personal, cultural or historic, except through hunting, fishing, or trapping where permitted and carried out in accordance with regulations issued by the Division of Fisheries and Wildlife, or other written authorization by the Department.
- (k) Special Use Permit Required. Unless authorized by a special use permit issued in accordance with 302 CMR 12.17(2), no person may:
  - 1) Consume, possess, distribute, sell or drink alcoholic beverages.
  - 2) Engage in any lotteries, raffles, gambling and games of chance.
  - 3) Conduct any commercial use activity or event.
  - 4) Possess machinery, instruments or equipment of any kind for the use of conducting lotteries, raffles, gambling and games of chance.
- (l) No person shall engage in any business, sale or display of goods or wares without a written permit from the Commissioner or his designee.
- (m) No person shall distribute, erect or affix any handbill, circular, pamphlet, placard, sign, notice, billboard, poster, advertisement, memorial or any printed material on or in any DCR property, except in designated areas, in accordance with posted guidelines, or unless as otherwise duly authorized.
- (n) No person, unless authorized by law or permit, shall have possession of or discharge any weapon, firearm, fireworks or other explosive.
- (o) Hunting or trapping of animals or birds shall not be permitted unless specifically authorized by law, including the Colonial Ordinances of 1641-47, or by the Commissioner. Injuring or otherwise disturbing animals or birds or their habitat is prohibited unless authorized in writing by the Department.
- (p) No person may deposit trash or any waste not generated during a stay at a DCR property in, on or near trash or recycling receptacles or in any other location on DCR property.
- (q) Each person utilizing any DCR property shall maintain and leave it in a clean and sanitary manner or condition.

- (r) All persons must adhere to any and all reasonable requests or directions of DCR personnel or law enforcement officials.
- (s) No person may possess marijuana, unless for duly authorized medical use, in accordance with state law and regulation.
- (t) No person may conduct archaeological investigation unless permitted by the State Archaeologist in accordance with M.G.L. c. 9 section 27C and approved by the Division Director.
- (u) The unanticipated discovery of historic artifacts or human remains shall be reported immediately to DCR.
- (v) No person may conduct research which may damage, disturb or remove any DCR property or resource, real, natural, personal, cultural or historic without written authorization by the Department.
- (w) No person may swim, bathe, dive, or wade from any watercraft, personal watercraft, dock, raft, or pier; nor may any person swim, bathe, dive, or wade from the shoreline of DCR property unless such shoreline is officially designated as a swimming area and such activity occurs during designated swimming hours, without written authorization by the Department.
- (x) No person may launch or use any watercraft of any nature or type, including personal watercraft, where it is posted as prohibited. Emergency launching is allowed at all times. No person may operate any watercraft or personal watercraft in excess of the posted speed limit. If no speed limit is posted, the speed limit shall be 12 miles per hour.
- (y) Any violation of a permit by its holder, its agents, employees, contractors or guests of any term or condition therein shall constitute grounds for its suspension or revocation by the Department, which action therein shall be final.

**"I/We agree to abide by the Rules and Regulations regarding use of DCR land (302 CMR 12.00), as well as all access procedures and conditions spelled out in the permit and letter of permission for the above-named research project."**

Principal Investigator \_\_\_\_\_  
*Name* *Date*

Co-principal \_\_\_\_\_  
*Name* *Date*